taken the following measures to control degradation of the environment:—

(i) Department of Environment has been established to regulate the management of the environment and undertake surveillance for proper utilisation of the resources.

(ii) A Central Board has been set up for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution at the central level and in the States to regulate and management of water resources.

(iii) Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 has been enacted to regulate prevention of air pollution.

(iv) Insecticides Act has been enacted to regulate safe use of pesticides and insecticides to check its adverse effect on flora and founa.

(v) National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur, Central Insecticide Laboratory, Faridabad, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow carry out research for identification and evaluation of health hazards due to environmental degradation at places of work and living.

(vi) Industries under organised sector are governed by Factories Act 1948 which regulates safety, health and welfare of workers employed in factories.

Supply of poor quality of rice and sugar at ration shops in Delhi

1575. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the fortnightly/monthly entitlement of rice for each adult member of a family, opting to draw rice from the ration shops as main item of consumption, in Delhi;

(b) what is the quantity of rice actually being supplied to the consumers in Circle No. 84, Lajpat Nagar New Delhi as compared to that in other circles;

(c) whether it is a fact that poor quality of sugar and rice are being supplied in circle No. 34 and consumers are compelled to purchase their requirements of rice and sugar from the open market at very high prices; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take to restore full quota of good quality rice and sugar to the consumers in the said circle?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) At present one adult member of a family (from age of 12 years and above) holding rice-eater category of food card is entitled to get 16 kg rice per month from the fair price shop in Delhi.

(b) Rice as well as sugar are being supplied at the prescribed scale, subject to availability of stocks.

(c) No, Sir. According to standing instructions, food stuff of only prescribed specification is supplied to fair price shops by the Food Corporation of India.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (b) and (c) above.

Enforced sterlizations in Maharashtra

1576. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that Government employees and local leaders are coercing the Adivasis in Thane district of Maharashtra to go in for sterilization;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of Adivasi males have become physically handicapped and are no longer in a position to work as a result thereof; and